



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1496

DATE: March 23, 2015

TO: Iowa Medicaid Podiatrists

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Initial Nursing Facility Care Evaluation and Management Codes

EFFECTIVE: May 1, 2015

Based on claim reviews completed by the IME Program Integrity Unit, it has been determined that Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes 99304-99306 for initial nursing facility care evaluation and management services are being billed inappropriately by some podiatrists.

These CPT codes contemplate “comprehensive” assessment services related to the “whole” patient. As such, these services should only be billed by a physician or by an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP), since their scope of practice would enable them to provide the comprehensive (i.e., full body/all systems) level of service. A podiatrist’s scope of practice is limited to conditions of the foot and ankle. Additionally, CPT indicates that CPT Codes 99304-99306 are used to identify Nursing Facility Admissions. Under the Iowa Administrative Code, Podiatrists cannot admit patients to a Nursing Facility (Iowa Administrative Code 441-81.3(1)(249A)).

Effective May 1, 2015, podiatrists will no longer be allowed to bill CPT codes 99304 – 99306.

The IME appreciates your partnership as we work to improve claim processing. If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or locally in Des Moines at 515- 256-4609 or by email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.